PRESIDENT: I may mention to the honourable House that I will be making a statement immediately after the question time on the matter, and on the policy of this Government with regard to the mineral sands.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the Government whether there was any representation from the public of Karunagapally complaining against the dangerous consequences of the present methods of operation?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Yes Sir. Complaints were received and investigations were made.

MR. K. BALAKRISHNA MENON (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): May I know whether any order has been issued to the Company for the temporary stopping of mining in coastal areas?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Temporary stopping has been effected but not complete stopping.

MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU: Will not the monsoon create an emergency situation in Karunagapally due to the working of the mineral companies?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Government are aware of it, and urgent investigations are being made.

Backward Communities and Government Service.

117 *MR. BRHAMAPURAM P. YESUDIAN (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether under the existing rules governing recruitment to the Public Service, it is well-nigh impossible for backward class Christians to gain entrance into Government service;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government has adopted any measures to remedy this disability on the part of backward class Christians.

MR. S. N. URE (*Public Service Commissioner*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) this does not arise. The whole question will come up for review shortly.

Compost Manure.

118 *MR. P. M. VARGHESE (*Minachil* cum *Thodupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what amount of compost manure was made by the Agricultural Department in the year 1119.

(*b*) whether there is any stock made available for sale in any of the manure depots in Travancore, and

(*c*) if the answer is in the affirmative, where are the places and what is the price per ton of manure?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Director of Agriculture*): (*a*) 2,19,716 c. ft. or approximately 4,000 tons, by the various Municipalities under the direction of the Bio-Chemist.

(*b*) Yes. The manure is available for sale in the compost depots under the various Municipalities.

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